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Date Sent: March 15, 1960

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FROM: Amembassy MOSCOW

TO: Secretary of State

NO: G-559

RPTD INFO: Amembassy HELSINKI UNN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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O. Lindblum is attacked by Izvestiya (March 13) for his March 6 speech in Oulu to the Social Democratic party group.

Lindblum, who is identified as a possible successor to Tanner as chairman of the party, is accused of being "an enemy of Finnish-Soviet friendship," of attacking the Paasikivi-Kekkonen line, and of attempting to whitewash the true culprits in the deterioration of Finnish-Soviet relations during the second half of 1958 by shifting the blame to innocent people. After quoting with approval a Maakansa criticism to the effect that Lindblum is muddying clear waters, Izvestiya ends with the statement that "he who today takes this path obviously lags behind life."

THOMPSON

VIToumanoff:mek

CHIAN:BHKlosson

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